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nery the fact that the United States are able to produce five times as much grain as Austria-Hungary, though that empire, according to the statistics of the *Jahrbuch für das Deutsche Reich* for 1904, says that farming and forestry employ 10,512,019 persons in the United States, while in Austria-Hungary they employ 12,679,974. The book concludes with statistical tables which, like all the contents of the volume, are well selected and arranged.

Mohammed and the Rise of Islam. By D. S. Margoliouth. xxvi and 481 pp., 31 Illustrations, 1 Plan, and 2 Maps. Index and Glossary. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. 1905. (Price, \$1.50.)

Dr. Margoliouth, who is Laudian Professor of Arabic at Oxford, says in his preface that since the lives of Mohammed by Sprenger, Muir, and others were written "knowledge of Mohammed and his time has been increased by the publication of many Arabic texts and the labours of European scholars on Mohammedan antiquities." Some of these scholars have elucidated much that was obscure, facilitated the understanding of Arabian history both before and after the Prophet, and supplied many fresh details of interest and importance. The present book (*Heroes of the Nations Series*) has had the advantage of this new material. As the title of the series implies, the book is written from the standpoint that Mohammed was "a great man who solved a political problem of appalling difficulty—the construction of a state and an empire out of the Arab tribes." The author gives the sources of his references in very numerous footnotes. He has composed a work on Mohammed and the rise of Islam that is at once scholarly and interesting.

Carpenter's Geographical Reader. Afrika. By Frank G. Carpenter. 336 pp. American Book Company, New York, 1905.

Carpenter's Africa completes the well-known series of geographical readers, describing mainly personal experiences and observations of the indefatigable author-traveller. The text is simple and interesting, even though at times it is a bit patronizing, the descriptions are to the point, and the illustrations are, as a rule, clear. The text is made easy for the pupil reader by the insertion of the phonetic spelling of each unusual proper name, the first time that that name appears in the text.

The maps are good, and as accurate as maps can be of a country in which political boundaries are constantly changing. We wish that Cape Agulhas had been inserted, so as to help remove the common impression that the Cape of Good Hope is the most southern point of Africa. The author uses the unauthoritative spelling of Kongo State for Congo Independent State. These minor matters, however, do not materially weaken the strength of an otherwise valuable addition to reference material for school use.

R. E. D.

Laboratory and Field Exercises in Physical Geography. By Gilbert H. Trafton. VI and 90 pp. Ginn & Co., Boston, 1905.

Trafton's Laboratory and Field Exercises is a simple, definite book for beginners in physical geography, and particularly adapted for use in association with Davis's *Elementary Physical Geography*. Of the sixty exercises in the book, thirty-seven are devoted to the land and twelve to the atmosphere. The exercises on the land are particularly good, as they involve a careful study of selected sheets of the topographical atlas of the United States Geological Survey. The